REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are presented for consideration, with Claims 1, 15, 16, 21 and 22 being independent.

Independent Claims 1 and 15 have been amended to further distinguish Applicants' invention from the cited art. In addition, editorial changes have been made to selected claims. Claims 16-22 have been added to provide an additional scope of protection.

Initially, Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Without conceding to the propriety of this rejection, Claim 9 has been amended to recite that the display state can be arbitrarily switched for each set of surface information. It is submitted that the amended subject matter is fully described in the specification, and therefore reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-15 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Particular attention was paid for the grounds underlying this rejection as set forth on page 3 of the Office Action in amending Claims 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 as shown above. It is therefore submitted that all the claims are now in full compliance with the particularity and distinctness requirement of the statute. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Tamagawa '778. Claims 1-9 and 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as

allegedly being anticipated by Beretta '890. Finally, Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being obvious over Beretta. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants' invention as set forth in Claim 1 relates to a color-information processing method for performing pseudo-three-dimensional display in order to analyze color distribution. The method comprises a color-distribution-information step of inputting color distribution information indicating color coordinate values in a second type of color system for sample points in a first type of color system, and a user's instruction input step of inputting an instruction of a user relating to an operation of generating object surface information in the second type of color system. Additional steps include generating three-dimensional object-surface information for the second type of color system in accordance with the instruction of the user, based on the color-distribution information, and performing the pseudo-three-dimensional display according to the three-dimensional object surface information.

Claim 15 relates to a computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program for executing a color-information processing method and corresponds to Claim 1. Claim 15 has thus also been amended to include steps of generating three-dimensional object-surface information for the second type of color system in accordance with the instruction of a user, based on color-distribution information, and performing a pseudo-three-dimensional display according to the generated three-dimensional object-surface information.

Support for the claim amendments can be found, for example, on page 6, line 14, *et. seq.*, of the specification. In accordance with Applicants' claimed invention, a high performance color-information processing method can be provided.

The Tamagawa patent relates to a color image output apparatus that produces a color proof, even when target gradations corresponding to printing conditions (inks, sheets and printing press conditions) to be simulated are changed. Colorimetric values measured by a first colorimeter for correcting gradation correcting one-dimensional LUT's for hues R, G, B are converted into desired colorimetric values to enable the color image output apparatus to output desired colors. For using a three-dimensional CM LUT generated by a second colorimeter in order to generate corrective values for the one-dimensional LUT's, a colorimetric value correcting table converts output data from the first colorimeter into desired colorimetric values on the second colorimeter.

In contrast to Applicants' claimed invention, however, Tamagawa is understood to only provide conversion from an RGB color system to an LAB color system by making a color print for the sole purpose of correcting the RGB display, but fails to teach or suggest, among other features of Applicants' claimed invention, generating three-dimensional object surface information in response to user's instructions and then performing a pseudo-three-dimensional display according to the generated information. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is respectfully requested.

The Beretta patent relates to a graphical user interface for interactively modifying a color gamut clipping. In Beretta, a graphical user interface can modify, on the user's display, the appearance of a palette of colors on one or more hard copy output devices. The interface provides a graphical representation of a color space in a color space window on the user's display and draws each color in the palette in its current location in the color space,

thereby showing the relationship of each color in the palette with other colors in the palette. The interface stores all color representations as device independent color specifications. As understood, the user interface stores plural colorimetrically measured colors representing the gamut of one or more target hard copy output devices, and displays the boundaries of a selected device gamut in the color space. The user manually colors the appearance of a color on an output printer device by moving a color from a current location outside the target gamut to a destination location inside the gamut. The user may also edit the color's lightness signal. The gamut clipping process ensures that the modified color is producible in the target gamut. When the user moves a color from inside the displayed target gamut to outside the gamut, a gamut constraining process prevents the color from being moved beyond the boundaries of the gamut. This allows the user to display and edit the palette of colors in any of several color spaces available, one of which is the uniform CIELAB color space.

With respect to independent Claims 1 and 15, however, Beretta is read to only teach editing color palettes including generating information relating to color spaces and color gamuts. Although Beretta teaches display of color spaces in three-dimensions and editing colors in the color spaces, this patent is not understood to teach or suggest, among other features, generating three-dimensional object surface information in accordance with user's instructions, and performing pseudo-three-dimensional display according to the three-dimensional object surface information. It is submitted, therefore, that Beretta also fails to teach or suggest Applicants' claimed invention, and thus reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and §103 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, it is submitted that Applicants' invention as set forth in independent Claims 1 and 15 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent Claims 2-14 set forth additional features of Applicants' invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

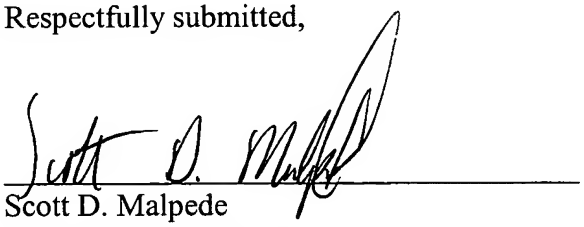
New Claims 16-22 are also submitted to be patentable. In Claim 16, a color-information processing method for displaying color-distribution based on sample points includes a color-distribution information input step of inputting color-distribution information indicating color coordinate values in a second type of color system for sample points in a first type of color system, a user's instruction input step of inputting an instruction of a user relating to an operation of generating three-dimensional object surface information, and a step of selecting sample points in accordance with the user instructions from the sample points in the first type of color system and obtaining the color coordinate values in the second type of color system for the selected sample points. Additional steps include generating the three-dimensional object surface information based on the obtained color coordinate value and generating a surface color information based on the selected sample points, and displaying color distribution based on the three-dimensional object-surface information and the surface color information.

Claims 21 and 22 relate to a computer-readable medium and an apparatus and correspond to Claim 16. Support for the new claims can be found, for example, in Figure 4 (see specifically steps 409 through 412) and the corresponding specification on page 9, line 7, *et. seq.*

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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